

SENATE RECORD VOTE ANALYSIS

104th Congress
2nd Session

Vote No. 42

March 19, 1996, 5:05 p.m.
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OMNIBUS APPROPRIATIONS/Final Passage

SUBJECT: **Balanced Budget Downpayment Act, II . . . H.R. 3019. Final passage, as amended.**

ACTION: BILL PASSED, 79-21

SYNOPSIS: As amended and passed, H.R. 3019, the Balanced Budget Downpayment Act, II, will make rescissions and will provide appropriations for fiscal year 1996 for the five regular appropriations bills that have not yet been signed into law (three of those bills have been vetoed, one has been stalled by a Senate Democratic filibuster on its conference report, and one has been stalled by a Senate Democratic filibuster against even beginning its consideration). Details are provided below.

Title I, omnibus appropriations:

- Commerce, Justice, State, Judiciary appropriations (vetoed): the bill will enact the vetoed version of the conference report, with numerous changes to reflect Administration concerns, including: \$975 million of the \$1.9 billion local law enforcement block grant will be earmarked for the COPS Program (the vetoed version did not contain any earmark for that program; see vote No. 31 for related debate); \$25 million will be earmarked for the Drug Courts Program; and Legal Services Corporation funding will be increased to \$300 million (an increase of \$22 million).

- District of Columbia Appropriations (stalled by a Democratic filibuster on the conference report): the bill contains the provisions of the conference report with four modifications and without the provisions establishing a school voucher program (Democrats have filibustered the conference report mainly because of those provisions); and the District will be prohibited from paying for abortions except in extreme cases (see vote No. 38 for related debate).

- Interior Appropriations (vetoed): the bill will enact the conference report as vetoed with minor modifications and with language added to the section on the Tongass National Forest that clarifies that nothing in the section will be interpreted as mandating clearcutting or unsustainable timber harvesting; also, the moratorium on adding new species to the endangered species list will be extended, though emergency listing authority will be given (see vote No. 30).

- Labor/Health and Human Services/Education Appropriations (a Democratic filibuster against the motion to proceed to the bill in the Senate has prevented its consideration): a total of \$216.279 billion in new budget authority will be provided; with advance

(See other side)

YEAS (79)				NAYS (21)		NOT VOTING (0)	
Republican (39 or 74%)		Democrats (40 or 85%)		Republicans (14 or 26%)	Democrats (7 or 15%)	Republicans (0)	Democrats (0)
Abraham	Hatfield	Akaka	Johnston	Ashcroft	Biden		
Bennett	Hutchison	Baucus	Kennedy	Brown	Boxer		
Bond	Jeffords	Bingaman	Kerrey	Faircloth	Feingold		
Burns	Kassebaum	Bradley	Kohl	Gramm	Hollings		
Campbell	Kempthorne	Breaux	Leahy	Grams	Kerry		
Chafee	Lott	Bryan	Levin	Grassley	Lautenberg		
Coats	Lugar	Bumpers	Lieberman	Helms	Moseley-Braun		
Cochran	Mack	Byrd	Mikulski	Inhofe			
Cohen	McConnell	Conrad	Moynihan	Kyl			
Coverdell	Murkowski	Daschle	Murray	McCain			
Craig	Pressler	Dodd	Nunn	Nickles			
D'Amato	Roth	Dorgan	Pell	Smith			
DeWine	Santorum	Exon	Pryor	Thomas			
Dole	Shelby	Feinstein	Reid	Warner			
Domenici	Simpson	Ford	Robb				
Frist	Snowe	Glenn	Rockefeller				
Gorton	Specter	Graham	Sarbanes				
Gregg	Stevens	Harkin	Simon				
Hatch	Thompson	Heflin	Wellstone				
	Thurmond	Inouye	Wyden				

EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE:

1—Official Business
2—Necessarily Absent
3—Illness
4—Other

SYMBOLS:

AY—Announced Yea
AN—Announced Nay
PY—Paired Yea
PN—Paired Nay

appropriations, a total of \$257.9 billion will be provided; the Department of Labor and related agencies will receive \$8.104 billion; the Department of Health and Human Services and related agencies will receive \$198.100 billion; the Department of Education and related agencies will receive \$25.213 billion; \$18.595 billion will be provided for supplemental security income; highlights include: 118 programs will be terminated or consolidated; funding will not be denied for the President's Executive order on striker replacements; the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) will receive an advance appropriation of \$1 billion; it is the sense of the Senate that this \$1 billion LIHEAP funding level should be insisted on in conference, and the President is urged to release available LIHEAP funds for this year (see vote No. 41); and \$2.544 billion of additional spending on education and job training programs that was requested by the President and that was originally provided under the contingency section of this Act (see below) will be provided with offsets (see vote No. 27).

- Veterans Affairs/Housing and Urban Development Appropriations (vetoed): funding for most programs will be at the fiscal year 1996 conference agreement level; exceptions include an additional \$681.6 million for veterans compensation and pensions (for a total of \$18.3 billion) and additional environmental funding (see vote No. 37).

Title II, emergency supplemental appropriations:

- \$1.2 billion will be provided for emergency natural disaster assistance; offsets will not be provided, but the expenditure will be within the Committee's available overall 602(a) budget allocation (for related debate, see vote Nos. 32, 36, and 40);
- \$10 million in emergency law enforcement aid will be provided to combat Mid-East terrorism;
- \$50 million in emergency aid will be given to Israel to combat terrorism;
- the President's \$200 million request for economic aid for Bosnia will be approved;
- \$777 million will be provided to pay the military costs of the Bosnia operation; this expense will be offset by a total of \$820 million in defense rescissions; and
- \$70 million will be provided to help cover the initial costs of providing F-16s to Jordan.

Title III, miscellaneous:

- current restrictions on population planning assistance will be removed (see vote No. 35 for related debate);
- the Federal Government, and recipients of Federal funds for health programs, will not discriminate against health care facilities or providers who do not provide abortions, abortion training, or abortion referrals (see vote No. 39);
- the Bonneville Power Administration's outstanding repayment obligations will be reset at an amount that is \$100 million greater than the present value of the principal and interest it otherwise would have paid;
- Federal criminal penalties will be established for female genital mutilation;
- Legal Services Corporation (LSC) grantees will be allowed to use non-LSC funds to respond to requests from governments for information, including by testifying; and
- authority to enter into multiyear procurement contracts for C-17 aircraft will be delayed.

Title IV, contingency appropriations:

- as reported, the bill contained \$4.8 billion in appropriations contingent upon the enactment of a budget agreement between the President and Congress; as amended, most of those appropriations were approved, with offsets (see vote Nos. 27 and 37); the approximately \$2 billion in contingency appropriations remaining include appropriations: for the Advanced Technology Program; for housing programs; and for international organizations and peacekeeping.

Those favoring final passage contended:

This bill contains the funding that would normally be included in the five regular fiscal year 1996 appropriations bills that have not yet been signed into law. Three of those bills were vetoed, the conference report on another has been stalled by a filibuster in the Senate, and the last has not even been considered in the Senate due to a filibuster by Senate Democrats on the motion to proceed. Hopefully, half-way through fiscal year 1996, this bill will finally meet the objections of Democrats in Congress and the White House that have led to several Government shutdowns and the enactment of a series of continuing appropriations bills. Many of the Democrats' proposals for greater spending are accepted in this bill, though this new spending is not additional spending--it is within the budget caps. Further, the President has submitted a request for \$8 billion more in spending for various programs, and this bill will provide part of that spending if the President reaches a budget agreement with Congress. Additionally, this bill will provide emergency disaster aid (without offsets) and funding for military operations in Bosnia (with offsets). Even with emergency funding, this bill will remain under the budget spending caps. During debate on this bill, several amendments adopted that from the viewpoint of a majority of Senators of both parties made it better. We urge our colleagues to join us now in voting for final passage.

Those opposing final passage contended:

We firmly support efforts to balance the budget, but those efforts must be reasonable. Wasteful Government spending should be cut, but that does not mean that deep cuts should be made in important social programs. We have an obligation to protect spending on education and the needy. It is not enough to balance the budget; we have other responsibilities as Senators as well. The President

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has reviewed this bill and has found that it spends billions of dollars less than it should; we thus oppose final passage.